

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A garment selected from the group consisting of a facemask surgical mask and a neckband, having a pocket therein and having a microphone integrated removably contained in the pocket of the garment.

2. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 adapted to be worn in a medical operating environment.

3. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 wherein said microphone is a larynx microphone.

4. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a contact electrically connected to the microphone disposed at an exterior surface of the garment, and a cable having a mating contact, engageable with said contact, for transmitting signals from said microphone to a remote location.

5. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a cable connected to said microphone for transmitting signals from said microphone to a remote location, said garment having an interior and an exterior and said microphone being disposed in the interior of said garment, and said garment having an opening through which said cable proceeds from said interior of said garment to said exterior of said garment.

6. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a wireless transmitter electrically connected to said microphone for wirelessly transmitting signals generated by said microphone to a remote location.

7. (Original) A garment as claimed in claim 1 wherein said microphone includes an electrical filter circuit for suppressing disturbing signals caused by noises

picked up by said microphone, said disturbing signals being contained in electrical signals generated by said microphone from voice signals.

8. A communication system comprising:

a garment selected from the group consisting of a facemask surgical mask and a neckband, having a pocket therein;

a microphone integrated removably contained in the pocket of said garment; and

a reception unit disposed remote from said microphone; and

a signal transmitting arrangement for transmitting signals, corresponding to voice signals picked up by said microphone, from said microphone to said reception unit.

9. (Original) A communication system as claimed in claim 8 wherein said signal transmitting arrangement comprises a cable electrically connecting said microphone and said reception unit.

10. (Original) A communication system as claimed in claim 8 wherein said signal transmitting arrangement comprises a wireless transmitter electrically connected to said microphone and located at said garment, and a wireless receiver located at said reception unit for receiving signals from said wireless transmitter.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently amended) A communication system as claimed in claim 8 wherein said reception unit includes means for transmitting electrical signals produced by said microphone, corresponding to voice signals, into at least one control signal for operating at least one medical-technical device.

12. (Original) A communication system as claimed in claim 8 wherein said reception unit includes at least one electrical filter circuit for suppressing disturbing signals caused by noises, which are contained in electrical signals generated by the microphone from voice signals.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Currently amended) A method for controlling a medical-technical device comprising the steps of:

integrating a microphone into a garment;

speaking voice commands into said microphone, which are converted into electrical signals by said microphone;

communicating said electrical signals to a reception unit located remotely from said microphone; and

from said reception unit, producing control signals for controlling at least one medical-technical device located remote from said microphone.

Cancel claim 14.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 comprising integrating said microphone into a garment selected from the group consisting of a facemask and a neckband.

16. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 comprising the step of employing a larynx microphone as said microphone.

17. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the step of transmitting said signals comprises electrically connecting a contact to said microphone and making said contact accessible at an exterior surface of said

garment, connecting a mating contact at a first end of an electrical cable to said contact, and connecting an opposite end of said cable to said reception unit, and transmitting said signals via said cable to said reception unit.

18. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the step of integrating said microphone in said garment comprises disposing said microphone in an interior of said garment, and wherein the step of transmitting said signals comprises providing an electrical cable in electrical connection with said microphone and guiding said cable through an opening in said garment from an interior of said garment to an exterior of said garment, and connecting an opposite end of said cable to said reception unit.

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the step of transmitting signals comprises providing a wireless transmitter in electrical connection with said microphone, providing a wireless receiver at said reception unit, and wirelessly transmitting said signals produced by said microphone from said transmitter to said receiver.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 13 comprising electrically filtering signals from said microphone to suppress disturbing signals therein produced by noises picked up by said microphone.